

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7096

BILL NUMBER: HB 1173

DATE PREPARED: Jan 5, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Photoluminescent Exit Signs and Markings.

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission to adopt rules to allow: (1) photoluminescent exit signs to be installed in new and existing Class 1 structures as the only method of exit signage in the structure; and (2) a floor proximity egress path marking system to be installed as an optional and supplemental safety measure.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: A Class 1 structure is a building or structure that is intended to be or is occupied or otherwise used in any part by the public, three or more tenants, or one or more persons who act as the employees of another.

The bill could result in reduced construction costs. The cost of a photoluminescent exit sign is about \$75 per sign, while the cost of an internally illuminated sign with a battery backup is about \$240 per sign. The savings would probably be for new construction since it would be expensive to replace current operating signs.

Background: The rule regarding illumination of exit signs as required by the State Fire Marshal in the 1997 Uniform Fire Code is the following: Exit signs shall be internally or externally illuminated. When the face of an exit sign is illuminated from an external source, it shall have an intensity of not less than 5 footcandles from either of two electric lamps. Internally illuminated signs shall provide equivalent luminance and be listed for the purpose. Exception: Approved self-luminous signs that provide evenly illuminated letters that have a minimum luminance of 0.06 foot lambert. All exit signs shall be illuminated at all times. To ensure continued illumination for a duration of not less than 1½ hours in case of primary power loss, the exit signs shall additionally be connected to an emergency electrical system provided from storage batteries, unit equipment, or an in-site generator set and the system shall be installed in accordance with the Electrical Code.

State facilities include the state capitol building, 2 office buildings, 26 Department of Corrections facilities, 41 highway subdistrict and district facilities, 24 state parks, 8 war monuments, and 92 county welfare facilities.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See *Explanation of State Impact*.

There are 92 counties, 1,008 townships, 563 cities and towns, 1,960 schools, 239 libraries, and 155 special taxing districts. Use of the photoluminescent exit sign is optional.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Agencies operating state facilities.

Local Agencies Affected: All.

Information Sources: Local government database; Department of Education; Mara Synder, Office of Fire Marshal, (317) 233-5341.